

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on February 20, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)
Rep. Duane Ankney, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Hal Jacobson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Gary Branae (D)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. William J. Jones (R)
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)
Rep. Alan Olson (R)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Debby Barrett
Rep. Scott Sales

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dee Barfknecht, Committee Secretary
Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HB 620, HB 664, HB 671, HB 693
HB 694, HB 771
Executive Action: HB 664

HEARING ON HB 664

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:00 Rep. Jim Keane (D), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 664, Options to control pine beetle.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:00 Gene Riordan, Butte High School Government Student
00:08:32 Jessica Graham, Butte High School Government Student
00:10:06 John Mulcaire-Jones, Butte High School Government Student
00:11:23 Jason Toddhunter, Montana Logging Association
00:12:14 Bob Harrington, Department of Natural Resources
00:15:54 Ellen Engstedt, Montana Wood Products Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:18:07 Rep. Ankney
00:18:31 Rep. Keane
00:19:03 Rep. Ankney
00:19:07 Rep. Keane
00:19:17 Rep. Dickenson
00:20:01 Mr. Riordan

Closing by Sponsor:

00:20:39 Rep. Keane

HEARING ON HB 620

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:20:56 Rep. Ernie Dutton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HB 620, Annual legislative sessions.

[EXHIBIT\(sth38a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:32:29 Rep. Hendrick
00:33:14 Rep. Dutton
00:33:34 Rep. Hendrick
00:34:40 Rep. Dutton
00:35:22 Rep. Phillips
00:35:51 Rep. Dutton
00:36:44 Rep. Wilmer
00:37:48 Rep. Dutton
00:38:12 Rep. Hendrick
00:38:57 Rep. Dutton
00:39:28 Rep. Dickenson
00:40:01 Rep. Dutton
00:41:56 Rep. Branae
00:42:45 Rep. Dutton

Closing by Sponsor:

00:43:08 Rep. Dutton

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 664

00:45:12 **Motion:** Rep. Hendrick moved that **HB 664 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

00:45:26 Rep. Ingraham
00:45:45 Rep. Phillips
00:46:15 Rep. Henry
00:46:50 Rep. Hendrick
00:47:18 Rep. Dickenson

00:48:33 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 664 DO PASS** carried by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Ankney, Olson, Barrett, Sales, Jones and Jacobson voted by proxy.

Additional Discussion:

00:49:59 Rep. Small-Eastman
00:50:05 Chairman Himmelberger
00:50:17 Sheri Heffelfinger
00:50:25 Chairman Himmelberger

HEARING ON HB 671

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:50:42 Rep. Robin Hamilton (D), HD 92, opened the hearing on
HB 671, Revise law on poet laureate compensation.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:53:26 Arni Fishbaugh, Montana Arts Council
00:55:49 Chuck Hunter, Montana Cultural Advocacy

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:56:24 Rep. Ingraham
00:57:01 Ms. Fishbaugh
00:57:21 Rep. Ingraham
00:58:14 Ms. Fishbaugh
00:59:21 Chairman Himmelberger
00:59:57 Rep. Hamilton

Closing by Sponsor:

01:00:23 Rep. Hamilton

HEARING ON HB 694

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:01:57 Rep. Edward Butcher (R), HD 29, opened the hearing on
HB 694, Revise fees for public documents and require
timely response to requests.

[EXHIBIT](#)(sth38a02)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:09:58 Trevis Butcher

[EXHIBIT](#)(sth38a03)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:12:07 Peggy Bourne, City Clerk Records Manager, Great Falls

01:12:58 Dal Smilie, Department of Administration

EXHIBIT(sth38a04)

01:22:51 Robert Throssell, Montana Association of Clerk and
Recorders

01:24:17 Mary McMahon, Clerk and Recorder, Election
Administrator, Butte

01:26:33 Alec Hanson, League of Cities and Towns

01:28:29 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of
Counties

01:31:14 Mary Phippen, Montana Association of District Court
Clerks

01:31:40 Cynthia Johnson, Pondera County Commissioner & Second
Vice President, Montana Association of Counties

Informational Testimony:

01:32:57 Jean Branscum, Secretary of State's Office

01:35:51 Steve Bender, Deputy Chief Information Officer

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:37:25 Rep. Hendrick

01:37:56 Rep. Butcher

01:39:38 Rep. Hendrick

01:40:03 Rep. Butcher

01:40:42 Rep. Dickenson

01:41:17 Rep. Butcher

01:41:58 Chairman Himmelberger

01:42:07 Rep. Phillips

01:42:23 Rep. Butcher

01:43:11 Rep. Ingraham

01:43:42 Rep. Butcher

Closing by Sponsor:

01:45:23 Rep. Butcher

01:49:54 Break

02:01:28 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 693

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:01:41 Rep. Edward Butcher (R), HD 29, opened the hearing on HB 693, Electronic records, documents, and communication preservation.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:05:51 Trevis Butcher
[EXHIBIT](#)(sth38a05)

Opponents' Testimony:

02:11:03 Dal Smilie, Department of Administration
02:20:10 Peggy Bourne, City Clerk Records Manager, Great Falls
[EXHIBIT](#)(sth38a06)
02:26:02 Robert Throssell, Montana Association of Clerk and Recorders
02:27:55 Patty Borsberry, Secretary of State's Office
02:31:43 Alec Hanson, League of Cities and Towns
02:32:49 Mary McMahon, Clerk and Recorder, Election Administrator, Butte
02:34:46 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties
02:36:19 Mary Phippen, Montana Association of District Court Clerks
02:37:01 Cynthia Johnson, Pondera County Commissioner & Second Vice President, Montana Association of Counties

Informational Testimony:

02:37:47 Steve Bender, Deputy Chief Information Officer

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:38:18 Rep. Olson
02:38:54 Rep. Butcher
02:39:05 Rep. Olson
02:39:14 Rep. Butcher
02:39:20 Rep. Phillips
02:39:55 Rep. Butcher

Closing by Sponsor:

02:40:21 Rep. Butcher

HEARING ON HB 771

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:46:38 Rep. William Jones (R), HD 9, opened the hearing on HB 771, Revise actuarial valuations and reporting for retirement systems.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

02:52:26 David Senn, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement System
02:54:20 Roxanne Minnehan, Executive Director, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration
02:55:17 Jim Gillett, Legislative Audit Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:55:36 Rep. Olson
02:56:13 Rep. Jones
02:56:41 Chairman Himmelberger
02:56:46 Rep. Jones
02:57:04 Rep. Ingraham
02:57:34 Rep. Jones
02:58:33 Rep. Phillips
03:00:24 Ms. Heffelfinger

Closing by Sponsor:

03:00:32 Rep. Jones

Additional Discussion:

03:01:23 Rep. Henry
03:01:27 Chairman Himmelberger
03:01:35 Rep. Henry
03:02:07 chairman Himmelberger

Additional Exhibits:

Document Pertaining to HB 294, Hearing 02/19/07
EXHIBIT(sth38a07)

Document Pertaining to HB 694, Hearing 02/20/07

[EXHIBIT](#)(sth38a08)

Document Pertaining to HB 693, Hearing 02/20/07

[EXHIBIT](#)(sth38a09)

ADJOURNMENT

03:02:16 Adjournment

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

DH/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sth38aad.pdf](#))